

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

Sub B
1. An optical fibre for propagating light in a preselected direction, said fibre having a light emitting region, said light emitting region comprising a plurality of reflecting surfaces of ~~optical~~ quality extending into said fibre and arranged such that a portion of light propagating along said fibre and impinging upon said surfaces will be reflected out of said fibre through a side wall thereof, at least one of said reflecting surfaces having a cross-sectional area less than that of said fibre.

B
10

2. An ^{*illumination device*}~~optical fibre~~ according to Claim 1 wherein the spacing between successive reflecting surfaces decreases as distance along said fibre in said preselected direction increases.

B
15

3. An ^{*illumination device*}~~optical fibre~~ according to Claim 2 wherein the cross-sectional areas of said reflecting surfaces increase as distance along said fibre in said preselected direction increases.

B
20

4. An ^{*illumination device*}~~optical fibre~~ according to Claim 1 wherein the cross-sectional areas of said reflecting surfaces increase as distance along said fibre in said preselected direction increases.

B
25

5. An ^{*illumination device*}~~optical fibre~~ according to Claim 1 wherein each of said reflecting surfaces is substantially planar.

B
30

6. An ^{*illumination device*}~~optical fibre~~ according to Claim 5 wherein the spacing between successive reflecting surfaces decreases as distance along said fibre in said preselected direction increases.

7. ^{illumination device}
An ~~optical fibre~~ according to Claim 6 wherein the cross-sectional areas of said reflecting surfaces increase as distance along said fibre in said preselected direction increases.

8. ^{illumination device}
An ~~optical fibre~~ according to Claim 5 wherein the cross-sectional areas of said reflecting surfaces increase as distance along said fibre in said preselected direction increases.

9. ^{illumination device}
An ~~optical fibre~~ according to Claim 1 wherein each of said reflecting surfaces comprises a wall of a notch in said fibre.

10. ^{illumination device}
An ~~optical fibre~~ according to Claim 9 wherein the spacing between successive reflecting surfaces decreases as distance along said fibre in said preselected direction increases.

11. ^{illumination device}
An ~~optical fibre~~ according to Claim 10 wherein the cross-sectional areas of said reflecting surfaces increase as distance along said fibre in said preselected direction increases.

12. ^{illumination device}
An ~~optical fibre~~ according to Claim 9 wherein the cross-sectional areas of said reflecting surfaces increase as distance along said fibre in said preselected direction increases.

13. ^{illumination device}
An ~~optical fibre~~ according to Claim 9 wherein each of said reflecting surfaces is substantially planar.

14. ^{illumination device}
An ~~optical fibre~~ according to Claim 13 wherein the spacing between successive reflecting surfaces decreases as distance along said fibre in said preselected direction increases.

30

15. ^{illumination device}
~~An optical fibre~~ according to Claim 14 wherein the cross-sectional areas of said reflecting surfaces increase as distance along said fibre in said preselected direction increases.

- 5 16. ^{illumination device}
~~An optical fibre~~ according to Claim 13 wherein the cross-sectional areas of said reflecting surfaces increase as distance along said fibre in said preselected direction increases.

10

Add B²
Add C1